

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification

Please substitute the following amended paragraph(s) and/or section(s) (deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining):

At page 5, lines 15-18, please replace the paragraph with the following paragraphs.

In an additional aspect, the invention pertains to an embolism protection device comprising a plurality of fibers having surface capillaries. The fibers are bound within a structure and have a deployed configuration that fills the lumen of a vessel having a diameter corresponding to that of a human vessel. The fibers can include one or more surface capillary channels. The capillary channels within a single fiber are substantially parallel to each other, if there are multiple surface capillary channels, and substantially parallel to the length of the fiber. The capillary channels can have an open groove along at least about 20% of their length and generally along from about 90% to 100% of their length.